--- 5 Cigars - Series “A” - 44 x 29 mm. design - scanned at 100% scale ---

--- recess printed on thin wove with an indistinct *vertical* mesh ---

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The catalogue lists the recess printed five cigar Series “A” black stamps as follows:

RG-597 - 5 cigars, black, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove - 4½ mm blue control numbers
RG-598† - 5 cigars, black, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove - 4½ mm *black control numbers* - **WANTED!**
RG-599† - 5 cigars, black, *fine roulette*, on vertical mesh wove - 4½ mm blue control numbers - **WANTED!**
RG-600 - 5 cigars, black, perforated 12, on vertical mesh wove - 4½ mm blue control numbers

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--- RG-597 - *UNDATED STAMPS* - *coarse roulette* - with 4½ mm. *blue control numbering* ---

Over the ten years that preceded the introduction of Series “C” in 1935 there were probably many individual sequences of ten million stamps running from **0000001** to the final **9999999** at which point the CBN sequence repeated (probably CBN records would indicate how many were actually printed).

In 1926 the special tax on small packages was abolished. The new Series “A” was introduced by CBN. The tax was now $ 3.00 per pound on any size cigar package.

★**RG-597** - 5 cigars, black, *coarse roulette*, on medium wove with a *vertical* mesh, control number **2536010**, roller cancelled by “General Cigars”, Montreal - **6-10-D**

★**RG-597 SP** - 5 cigars, black, *coarse roulette*, on medium weight *vertical* mesh wove, control number **2300003**, stamped ***Sample*** in dark blue script

At this time it is not possible to separate these undated rollered stamps into proper control number sequences. As more examples are added it may happen that the colours used in the roller cancellations by the different companies will form a pattern giving a clue as to their proper dating. As can be seen from the dated cancellation of **2-23-D** in 1927-28, there was more than a single pass through the control number sequence, and both the *perforated* and *coarse roulette* were probably intermingled in the control number sequence, although for convenience they are separated in the following lists. I have not seen a *fine roulette* stamp.

Without any documentation as proof, I feel that the ***Sample*** stamps originated with CBN, after its 1923 formation, as a separate Canadian Branch of ABN, New York.

0183412	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Rock City”, Quebec, P.Q. - **2-13-D**
0314179 ★	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Benson & Hedges”, Montreal - **34-10-D**
0316728	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Montreal - **6-10-D**
0539132	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Montreal - **6-10-D**
0551497	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Punch” Cigars, Toronto - **10-50-E**
0575884	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General” Cigars, Montreal - **6-10-D**
0583042	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “L.O. Grothe”, Montreal - **2-10-D**
0592112	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Tuckett Tobacco”, Montreal - **5-10-D**
0781256	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “L.O. Grothe”, Montreal - **2-10-D**
0800076 ★	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Punch” Cigars, Toronto - **10-50-E**
0922380	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “L.O. Grothe”, Montreal - **5-10-D**
1042005	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “H. Simon & Sons”, Montreal - **38-10-D**
1053546	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “A. E. Smith”, London - **1-24-E**
1109711	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “H. Simon & Sons”, Montreal - **38-10-D**

1168272	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, unreadable on eBay
1192791	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Benson & Hedges”, Montreal - **34-10-D**
1291789	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, with an unreadable rose roller cancellation
1326397	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Montreal - **6-10-D**
1337164	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “L. O. Grothe”, Montreal - **2-10-D**
1373667	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, L’Epiphanie - **17-10-D**
1400022	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Tuckett Tobacco”, Montreal - **5-10-D**
1420790	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “L. O. Grothe”, Montreal - **2-10-D**
1462099	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, L’Epiphanie - **17-10-D**
1480947	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Montreal - **6-10-D**
1722031	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Tuckett Tobacco”, Montreal - **5-10-D**
2268292	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Benson & Hedges”, Montreal - **34-10-D**
2300003 ★	RG-597 SP	5 cigars, coarse roulette, stamped ***Sample*** in purple script
2303621	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Tuckett Tobacco”, Montreal - **5-10-D**
2305712	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Montreal - **6-10-D**
2321595	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Forest Ltee”, Montreal - **3-10-D**
2360985	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Tuckett Tobacco”, Montreal - **5-10-D**
2367967	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, with an unreadable rose roller cancellation
2390447	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Benson & Hedges”, Montreal - **34-10-D**
2495688	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Benson & Hedges”, Montreal - **34-10-D**
2536010 ★	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Montreal - **6-10-D**
2574406	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “A.E. Smith”, London - **1-24-E**
2647222	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Tuckett Tobacco”, Montreal - **5-10-D**
2652574	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Tuckett Tobacco”, Montreal - **5-10-D**
2652575	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Tuckett Tobacco”, Montreal - **5-10-D**
2653122	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Tuckett Tobacco”, Montreal - **5-10-D**
2653254	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Tuckett Tobacco”, Montreal - **5-10-D**
2733101	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, with an unreadable roller cancellation
2741436	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, L’Epiphanie - **17-10-D**
2776241	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, L’Epiphanie - **17-10-D**
2783446	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, L’Epiphanie - **17-10-D**
3201099	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Montreal - **6-10-D**
3283190	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Tuckett Tobacco”, Montreal - **5-10-D**
3340208	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette
3409092	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, L’Epiphanie - **17-10-D**
3541384	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “H. Simon & Sons”, Montreal - **38-10-D**
3558101	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Tuckett Tobacco”, Montreal - **5-10-D**
3600656	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “L.O. Grothe”, Montreal - **2-10-D**
3755018	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Andrew Wilson”, Toronto - **26-50-E**
3780642	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, ex Brandom catalogue
3939757	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “L.O. Grothe”, Montreal - **2-10-D**
4047574	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Montreal - **6-10-D**
4053162	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “H. Simon & Sons”, Montreal - **38-10-D**
4053167	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “H. Simon & Sons”, Montreal - **38-10-D**
4087998	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “L.O. Grothe”, Montreal - **2-10-D**
4257688	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “L.O. Grothe”, Montreal - **2-10-D**
4314516	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Benson & Hedges”, Montreal - **34-10-D**
4335387	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “L.O. Grothe”, Montreal - **2-10-D**
4363780	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “L.O. Grothe”, Montreal - **7-10-D**
4445672	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Montreal - **6-10-D**
4455091	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Benson & Hedges”, Montreal - **34-10-D**
4479058	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Montreal - **6-10-D**
4483304	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, with an unreadable violet roller
4520339	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “L.O. Grothe”, Montreal - **2-10-D**
4900510	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “H. Simon & Sons”, Montreal - **38-10-D**
4911476	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, coded by **10-50-E**
4993622	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Thomas Harkness”, Montreal - **38-10-D**
5449423	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette
5971430	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Damase St. Maurice”, Montreal - **10-10-D**
6058368	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Toronto - **10-50-E**
6072572	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Montreal - **6-10-D**
6186049	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Andrew Wilson”, Toronto - **26 - 50 - E**

6481424	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “H. Simon & Sons”, Montreal - **38-10-D**
6564587	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Toronto - **11-50-E**
6643988	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “L.O. Grothe”, Montreal - **2-10-D**
6818181	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “L.N. Hadd”, Montreal - **28-10-D**
6870199	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Jose Granda”, Montreal - **7-10-D**
6928966	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, unreadable
6954939	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Andrew Wilson”, Toronto - **26-50-E**
7589055 ○	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “L.O. Grothe”, Montreal - **2-10-D**
7610751	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “L.O. Grothe”, Montreal - **2-10-D**
7635137	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Andrew Wilson”, Toronto - **26-50-E**
7725173	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “L.O. Grothe”, Montreal - **2-10-D**
7726289	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, L’Epiphanie - **17-10-D**
7944579	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Toronto - **11-50-E**
8004002	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Jose Granda”, Montreal - **7-10-D**
8104528	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, roller cancelled **3-20-D**
8178453	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “H. Simon & Sons”, Montreal - **38-10-D**
8179922	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “H. Simon & Sons”, Montreal - **38-10-D**
8207901	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Punch Cigars”, Toronto - **10-50-E**
8411511	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Toronto - **11-50-E**
8459867	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Toronto - **11-50-E**
8590002	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, used but uncancelled
8590023 ★	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Toronto - **11-50-E**
8743729	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Toronto - **11-50-E**
8930127	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Andrew Wilson”, Toronto - **26-50-E**
9008389	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “La Desiderata Cigars”, Montreal - **8-10-D**
9207649	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Montreal - **6-10-D**
9239496	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Tuckett Tobacco”, Montreal - **5-10-D**
9294450	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Andrew Wilson”, Toronto - **26-50-E**
9375823	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “L.O. Grothe”, Montreal - **2-10-D**
9386700	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, L’Epiphanie - **17-10-D**
9388887	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Benson & Hedges”, Montreal - **34-10-D**
9401121	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Montreal - **6-10-D**
9446957	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “Andrew Wilson”, Toronto - **26-50-E**
9716041	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, by “General Cigars”, Montreal - **6-10-D**

--- RG-600 - UNDATED STAMPS - *perforated 12* - with 4½ mm. *blue control numbering* ---

It is difficult to decide whether the perforated separation occurred subsequent to the coarse roulette, or whether they form a concurrent control number sequence. I would presume that they ran concurrently. The following separation of **RG-600** from the preceding **RG-597** is simply a matter of convenience.

★**RG-600** - 5 cigars, control **2056678**, *perforated 12*, on medium wove paper, with a *vertical* mesh, roller cancelled by “James A. McNee”, London, Ontario - **7-24-E**

0367382	RG-600	5 cigars, perforated 12, by “H. Simon & Sons”, Montreal - **38-10-D**
0424183	RG-600	5 cigars, perforated 12, by “H. Simon & Sons”, Montreal - **38-10-D**
1072005	RG-600	5 cigars, perforated 12, by “H. Simon & Sons”, Montreal - **38-10-D**
1719605	RG-600	5 cigars, perforated 12, by “L.O. Grothe”, Montreal - **2-10-D**
1925967	RG-600	5 cigars, perforated 12
2056678 ★	RG-600	5 cigars, perforated 12, by “A. E. Smith”, London - **1-24-E**
2623736	RG-600	5 cigars, perforated 12, by “Benson & Hedges”, Montreal - **34-10-D**
2711093	RG-600	5 cigars, perforated 12, by “Benson & Hedges”, Montreal - **34-10-D**

3214816	RG-600	5 cigars, perforated 12, by “Benson & Hedges”, Montreal - **34-10-D**
3541384	RG-600	5 cigars, perforated 12, by “H. Simon & Sons”, Montreal - **38-10-D**
4241162	RG-600	5 cigars, perforated 12, by “R. Goulet”, Montreal - **4-10-D**

--- RG-597 - *DATED STAMPS* - *coarse roulette* - with 4½ mm. *blue control numbering* [1927-32] ---

★**RG-597** - 5 cigars, black, *coarse roulette*, on medium weight wove with a *vertical* mesh, control number **8418659**, stamped **10 1927 / 2-23-D** by “Empire Tobacco”, Granby, P.Q., in October 1927

★**RG-597** - 5 cigars, black, *coarse roulette*, on medium weight wove with a *vertical* mesh, control number **2536010**, stamped **2-23-D / 929** by “Empire Tobacco”, Granby, P.Q., in September 1929

8347833★	08/27	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, stamped 8 1927 / **2-23-D**
8408071	10/27	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, stamped 10 1927 / **2-23-D**
8418659★	10/27	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, stamped 10 1927 / **2-23-D**
2194385★	06/28	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, stamped 6 1928 / **2-23-D**
2872631★	09/29	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, stamped **2-23-D / 929**
9850826★	11/29	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, stamped **2-23-D / 1129**
9910849★	02/30	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, stamped **2-23-D / 230**

Under the Budget of 1932 a new date code was introduced. The final digit read the [year] - the central letter gave the [year-quarter] - and the leading letter gave the [month of that quarter]. Thus **AC3** reads as the first month - of the third quarter - of 1933 [i.e. July 1933]

★**RG-597** - 5 cigars, black, *coarse roulette*, on medium weight wove with a *vertical* mesh, control number **3601575**, stamped **2-23-D / AC3** by “Empire Tobacco”, Granby, P.Q., in July 1933

3601575★	07/33	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, stamped **2-23-D / AC3**
7651591★	06/34	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, stamped **2-23-D / CB4**

In September 1934 the date cancellation was changed again to use a three letter code. The center letter provided the year [**E** for 1934], while the final letter gave the year-quarter [**A** to **D**], and the leading letter [**A** to **C**] indicated the month of that year-quarter. Thus **BFB** reads as the [second month] [of 1935] [second quarter], or May 1935.

★**RG-597** - 5 cigars, black, *coarse roulette*, on medium weight wove with a *vertical* mesh, control number **6333187**, stamped **6-10-D / BFB** by "General Cigars", Montreal, P.Q., in May 1935

3392167★	05/35	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, stamped **2-23-D / BFB**
5380514	05/35	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, stamped **6-10-D / BFB**
5524649	05/35	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, stamped **6-10-D / BFB**
6333187★	05/35	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, stamped **6-10-D / BFB**
6470037	05/35	RG-597	5 cigars, coarse roulette, stamped **11-50-E / BFB**

--- die proof recess printed on thin wove with an indistinct *vertical* mesh ---

★**RG-597 DP** - 5 cigars, the black die proof [X-G-103], on thin wove with an indistinct *vertical* mesh, and *vertical* ribbed lines

The central control box has been clipped from the die proof probably for the use as a *paste-up* on the 'six' denomination in the same Series or on another paste-up - scanned at 100% scale.

RG-597 TP / SP - 5 cigars, black, *coarse roulette*, on medium *vertical* mesh wove, ***without*** control numbering, stamped ***Sample*** in dark blue script - ***two copies***

--- the five Cigar Transfer Rolls and Plates ---

[information from Chris Ryan]

In a memorandum to *D. Sims, Esq.* (Deputy Minister of National Revenue, Customs and Excise) dated June 14th 1944, *L. A. White* and *C.R. Coombs* record the destruction of the ABN / CBN cigar rolls No. XG-318 and 577 for the Series “A” five cigar 44 x 29 mm. bilingual stamp.

In a similar memorandum, dated June 8th 1944, they record the destruction of the ABN / CBN plates No. 1 and 3 for the five cigar Series “A” 44 x 29 mm. bilingual stamp. The 150 impression plates were probably arranged 10 x 15 stamps.

In the memorandum to *D. Sims, Esq.* (Deputy Minister of National Revenue, Customs and Excise) dated June 14th 1944, *L. A. White* and *C.R. Coombs* record the destruction of the ABN / CBN die XG-103 for the 44 x 29 mm. bilingual five cigar stamp of Series “A”.

File path is [c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RG_STAMPS \ 1926 - Series A \ 5 cigars - oblong],
in MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,
Formatted for a HP CP 1525 Laser Jet,
October 19th 2013, JBH